

# Law Enforcement News

Vol. XXIV, No. 489

A publication of John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY

May 15, 1998

## In this issue:

**Around The Nation:** A coast-to-coast roundup of police news. **Pages 2, 3.**

**People & Places:** Fancy lootwork; the Santa Fe trail; the price of candor; heading for the beach; death of an eclectic cop. **Page 4.**

**The numbers game:** Guess what? The UCR says serious crime dropped again last year. **Page 5.**

**Disarming development:** Accidental shooting prompts PD to go with fake guns during training exercises. **Page 5.**

**Ground-breakers:** PDs place among semifinalists for Innovation awards. **Page 5.**

**The price of fitness:** Bonuses are in store for some NYSP troopers. **Page 5.**

**Listening In:** Authorized wiretaps reached a 30-year high last year, with most of them in drug cases. **Page 6.**

**Bad things come in small packages, too:** Interpol warns about pistol disguised as key chain. **Page 6.**

**Crank It up:** Dallas residents want mandatory uses of lights & sirens when police race to emergencies. **Page 7.**

**Closing the book:** NJ county gets out of the police training business. **Page 7.**

**Forum:** Medical marijuana is a red herring; taking aim at domestic violence. **Page 8.**

**The crime of "DWB":** New Jersey SP denies using racial profiling in traffic stops. **Page 9.**

**Looking for Improvement:** Whether on top of the heap or at bottom, police agencies seek to retool & upgrade their recruitment of females. **Page 10.**

## Rank objections

### Study calls growth of women in policing "alarmingly slow"

The growth in the numbers of women in law enforcement jobs at all levels "remains stuck at an alarmingly slow rate," according to a new study, which said the finding means that women "will never reach equal representation or gender balance" in police agencies.

The study by the National Center for Women and Policing, which ranked 100 U.S. law enforcement agencies based on the numbers of women in the ranks, found that women hold only 11.6 percent of the nation's sworn law enforcement positions last year.

Females hold only 7.4 percent of top command positions, which are defined in the study as chiefs, deputy chiefs, commanders and captains; 8.8 percent of supervisory positions, including lieutenant and sergeant, and 12.5 percent of front-line positions like detective and police officer.

Women of color hold even fewer positions — 2.4 percent of top commands; 3.1 percent of supervisory jobs, and 4.5 percent of line operation positions.

In contrast, women hold 66 percent of low-paying civilian jobs, the study found.

"It's like a gate being shut," said the center's

director, Penny Harrington, who served as the first female police chief in a major U.S. city when she led the Portland, Ore., Police Bureau in the 1970s.

The low proportion of women in policing can have dire ramifications for law enforcement, the study asserted, including more police brutality, ineffective responses to domestic violence, strained police-community relations and costly sexual harassment and sexual discrimination lawsuits.

As a group, state law enforcement agencies had the worst showing in the study, which also looked at municipal and county police and sheriffs' departments. Only 5.2 percent of the state agencies' sworn positions were held by females, compared to 14 percent in municipal agencies and 13.1 percent in county agencies. All of the 10 lowest-ranked agencies were state police or highway patrols, the study showed.

"State police agencies are the last on board," noted Harrington. "Administrators will say it's really hard to recruit women because they can be assigned anywhere in the state and often don't have backup. That has never proven out in any

study that's shown why women join or don't join police agencies."

Progress has been made only in departments where legal battles to fight discriminatory hiring and promotion practices have resulted in consent decrees or other court orders forcing agencies to increase the numbers of women, said Harrington, whose own law enforcement career began in the early 1960s.

That was true of the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police, which was ranked No. 1 in the numbers of women at all levels, and seven of the other top 10 agencies, the study noted.

Few agencies feel compelled to improve on the numbers because "no one's watching them," Harrington maintained. "There's no community keeping track of what's going on, and as long as they're not getting sued for discrimination and brutality, they maintain a very low profile.... So they're not under any pressure to hire women."

The study cited several reasons for the dearth of women in law enforcement, including biased entry tests that focus on upper body strength "despite studies showing physical prowess to be

Continued on Page 10

## State Police take over as PD in Chicago suburb is decimated from top down

The Cicero, Ill., Police Department is an agency in the throes of turmoil, perhaps more of it in the past month than many police forces undergo in their histories. Its top command structure is decimated, nearly one-third of its officers have been fired, suspended or forced to resign in the wake of corruption and misconduct allegations, and its muckraking superintendent has resigned and left town, fearing for his safety.

The Illinois State Police is now in control of the department, and 16 of its troopers are patrolling city streets, after being called in early this month to take up the slack left when more than 40 of the town's 140 police officers were relieved of duty or fired. The

troopers are being assisted by a small contingent of Cook County sheriff's deputies.

Lieut. Col. Robert Johnson, a deputy chief with the State Police, is serving as Cicero's interim police superintendent, while state and FBI investigations of corruption and misconduct allegations continue. Johnson was appointed on May 6, less than two weeks after Cicero police Supt. David Niebur stepped down.

Officials of this city of 70,000 residents on the western edge of Chicago — which has a checkered history as a magnet for vice and organized crime — ordered the dismissals and disciplinary measures against the officers, based on allegations ranging from shaking down

Hispanic motorists and soliciting bribes to violating the town's residency requirement.

Niebur, a former Joplin, Mo., police chief who was hired by Town President Betty Loren-Maltese last December with a mandate to clean up the Police Department, resigned along with Phillip Bue, his top deputy, on April 25, one day after both were suspended for what they claim was their aggressive public exposure of municipal corruption.

On May 1, the top command took another hit when acting Supt. William Bacon, who previously headed the agency's internal affairs unit, was suspended after he acknowledged having personal and business ties to a former

Stone Park police officer convicted in a marijuana-growing operation run by organized crime.

Niebur, who in his career has developed a reputation as a maverick, said he initially welcomed the chance to overhaul a department that the Town President said was "in turmoil," but the former Minneapolis cop admitted that the job has now left him fearing for his life.

"For the first time in my life, I believe there are a number of people who would like to see me assassinated," Niebur told The Chicago Tribune on April 25, shortly before he left Illinois for an undisclosed location. "In my career, I have had people shoot at me and I have killed people. But I have never been so scared as I am this week here."

Niebur and Bue told the newspaper that they had uncovered what Niebur termed "big-time crime...big-time corruption" involving police and town officials. They charged that officers have made thousands of dollars a month shaking down undocumented immigrants; made false arrests in exchange for bribes, and failed to make arrests in solvable murder cases that have languished for years in cold-case files.

Officials also hired officers with extensive criminal histories because they didn't bother conducting pre-employment background checks, Niebur and Bue charged.

The two police officials say they are working closely with investigators from the FBI and the U.S. Attorney's Office, who are trying to determine whether

Continued on Page 11

## Vested interest:

## Congress OK's \$75M body-armor fund

In an effort to make bulletproof vests a standard part of police equipment nationwide, Congress has approved \$75 million to help local agencies handle the cost of the expensive gear, which is credited with saving the lives of more than 2,000 officers since 1980.

The bill, which was sponsored by Representative Frank LoBiondo (R.-N.J.), was approved by the House in a 412-4 vote on May 12, despite a movement in Congress against providing further Federal funding to state and local governments.

The bill is nearly identical to a measure that the Senate passed on March

11. Grants would be directed toward the areas with the greatest need, and state and local jurisdictions would be required to match any Federal grants for the purchase of body armor.

The measure is expected to be signed by President Clinton, a strong supporter of law enforcement.

Congress, and Republicans in particular, "usually don't like to micromanage the local level, but there are 150,000 state and local law enforcement officers who do not have access to a vest," LoBiondo told The Newark Star-Ledger.

The bill marks the first time that

Congress has set aside funds specifically for the purchase of body armor — life-saving equipment that is sorely needed by scores of police departments nationwide, some of which have relied on the donations of old vests from other agencies or launched fund-raisers to cover purchase costs.

FBI statistics show that about 42 percent of U.S. police officers killed with guns since 1980 could have been saved if they had been wearing bulletproof vests.

The vests, which wear out in five to 10 years, cost an average of \$500 each. "There are a lot of departments through-

out the country that just don't have it in their budgets to pay for body armor," said Robert Scully, executive director of the National Association of Police Organizations, a lobbying group.

Municipalities should consider body armor to be just as crucial to police work as squad cars — and replaced as soon as is necessary to ensure officer safety, said Rick Whelan, who heads the New Jersey chapter of the Fraternal Order of Police. "Local governments need to get on a cycle to replace vests every five years, like they do with cars," he said. "This money can help them do that."



# Around the Nation

## Northeast

**CONNECTICUT** — Stamford police have begun tracking inmates released or paroled from prison. Officers are supplied with a daily flier that contains information and photos.

A hotly contested bill to restrict police pursuits passed the Senate April 29 by a vote of 22-13. The measure would require police to receive permission from a supervisor before any high-speed chase, and would require police to notify neighboring municipalities when a chase crosses town lines. Opponents claim the bill will enable criminals to know in advance what actions will trigger a pursuit and what actions will stop it.

**DELAWARE** — The Wilmington News-Journal reported May 10 that a test for State Police applicants is to blame for the lack of black trooper candidates. Officials quoted by the paper said that more than half of the college-educated black applicants who met the minimum qualifications for becoming a trooper were dropped from the hiring process because they failed a test for comprehension skills.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA** — Auditors from the General Accounting Office are interviewing members of the Police Department to find why a \$15-million grant has not been spent. Chief Charles Ramsey denied a report that the agency hasn't used the money, which was intended to make immediate purchases of cruisers, bulletproof vests and other equipment. Only \$300,000 remains, he said.

Marthell N. Dean, 24, was sentenced April 23 to life in prison without parole for the ambush murder of Police Officer Brian Gibson. Gibson, who was on-duty in his cruiser, was shot from inches away by Dean after the defendant had been ejected from a nightclub by an off-duty officer.

A D.C. officer was indicted April 29 on charges of kidnapping and sexually abusing a man he found in a parked car in 1997. Officer Vincent A. McKie allegedly detained the man, sexually assaulted him, then drove him to another location and assaulted him again. The victim reported the incident shortly after it happened. Police found evidence of a sex act in McKie's cruiser.

**MARYLAND** — State and local police officers earlier this month launched a statewide roundup of prisoners on supervised release, after an appeals court ruled that a faulty computation of the prisoners' "good time" led to their release. Officials say that more than 2,000 parolees will be affected.

Police officers in Upper Marlboro are being urged by the Fraternal Order of Police not to speak with FBI agents investigating charges of police brutality. The requests stem from bad relations between the two agencies over the past three years, officials said.

**MASSACHUSETTS** — Officer Adalberto Bonilla, an eight-year Boston police veteran, was arrested May 7 for organizing a gang of thieves to commit home-invasion robberies of cocaine dealers. Bonilla faces charges of conspiracy to interfere with interstate commerce by robbery, conspiracy with intent to distribute cocaine and using a firearm in a crime of violence, among other charges. Four accomplices were indicted on similar charges.

Superior Court Judge Isaac Borenstein will consider a petition to ban the state from collecting DNA samples from prisoners and parolees. The state is currently building a DNA data base that will be used to compare stored samples with biological evidence from crime scenes.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE** — Thousands of people who were strip-searched at the Strafford, Carroll and Merrimack county jails between 1990 and 1993 may be able to seek damages, after a ruling by a U.S. district judge declared the jails' strip-search policy unconstitutional.

Rockingham County Attorney William Hart has developed a special unit to deal only with sex crimes, which he admitted make up only 15 percent of his office's caseload, but come before a jury nearly half the time. The Sex Crimes Unit will be staffed by two prosecutors, an investigator and the victim advocate unit.

State legislators are considering a measure that would make it illegal for a person under a temporary restraining order to own a gun. Opponents of the bill say it should apply only if an individual has been charged with a crime. Supporters note that all seven domestic violence-related deaths in the state this year involved handguns.

**NEW JERSEY** — Since a Federal order mandating the hiring of more minorities by the State Police was lifted in 1992, the percentage of blacks, Hispanics and Asians joining the force has dipped to 11 percent, compared with 23 percent during the 17 years the mandate was in effect. State Police officials attribute the decline to stiff competition from other law enforcement organizations, coupled with an entrance requirement of a college degree or two years of military service. A lawsuit filed by 13 black troopers contends that qualified minorities are routinely denied promotions and have fewer opportunities to increase their chances of advancement.

Leonora borough officials are refusing to reimburse \$8,900 in veterinarian bills that the partner of a K-9 dog incurred when the German shepherd developed terminal cancer. Det. David Stein took the dog, Cody, home when he became too sick to work. Council members claim that at that point Cody became a pet. The Police Department has set up a fund to help Stein cover the bills.

The Newark Police Department has launched an anti-theft initiative known as C.A.T. (Combat Auto Theft), in an effort to further reduce the city's declining vehicle-theft rates. In 1989, 15,698 cars were stolen. In 1997, the number had fallen to 5,775.

**NEW YORK** — Juan A. Roman, a deputy sheriff in Buffalo, allegedly shot his wife to death May 1 and wounded another woman at a local elementary school in front of frightened children. Roman, 37, joined the Erie County Sheriff's Department in 1987.

The Rev. William Kalaidjian, 72, the senior member of the New York City Police Department's chaplain team, was forced into retirement in early May after using an anti-gay epithet to refer to a prosecutor who handled the case of a sergeant accused of assaulting a suspect.

A 44-year-old Shelter Island man, Curtis Cook, was shot to death April 27 in what is believed to be the first killing in the community's recorded history. Cook, known as an "alcoholic and hothead" was allegedly murdered by his best friend and neighbor, Kenneth Payne. Cook had been charged March 17 with sexually assaulting an 8-year-old girl the previous summer. Cook was able to raise the \$100,000 bail and was released from jail promptly, infuriating residents. Payne, whom residents called a misfit with a fiery temper, allegedly fired at Cook once with a 12-gauge shotgun. He collapsed and died in his doorway. Payne has been arraigned on murder charges.

Derek McCarthy, 42, was arrested May 13 and charged with the 1981 murder of off-duty U.S. Customs Service Officer George Spencer. The information came to police in a tip from an unrelated drug investigation.

**VERMONT** — A DNA data base for violent criminals has been established under a new law. Vermont is one of the last states to develop the law enforcement tool.

## Southeast

**ARKANSAS** — The Saline County Sheriff's Department will change its policy allowing suspects to be held for six hours in jail even if they make bond. The change was ordered by Sheriff Judy Pridgen after Tara Trickey won a lawsuit against the Sheriff and a deputy, saying her rights were violated in 1996 when she was held for six hours after yelling at the deputy during a traffic stop.

**FLORIDA** — "Operation Clean Sweep," a one-week statewide crack-

down on parole violators by sheriffs' departments, resulted in 2,054 arrests last month.

The International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO, has won a referendum making it the bargaining unit for North Miami police. The IUPA garnered 96 percent of the vote over the Metro Dade Police Benevolent Association.

Michael Perez, a Miami-Dade detective, was awarded \$5.7 million May 1 by a jury that agreed with his claim that he was intentionally run down by a racist rogue officer while working undercover. The officer, Sgt. William Alsbury, said he believed he was hitting a burglary suspect. Perez claims that after the accident, the department closed ranks to protect Alsbury, who was nearing retirement. Perez was put on desk duty at a \$30,000 pay cut, and ostracized by fellow officers. He stayed, he said, because he needed the medical insurance. The accident shattered Perez's ankle, injured his knees, and herniated two discs in his back. He still has screws in his ankle, and moves with difficulty.

More than 10 years after the "River Cops" case exposed widespread corruption on the Miami police force, the 20th officer caught in the scandal has been convicted. Noel Nogues, accused of lying five years ago about meetings that took place in 1985, was found guilty of perjury. Prosecutors said that Nogues, who faces a sentence of up to 364 days in jail, attempted to extort money from the group of corrupt officers involved in a scheme to rip off drug smugglers on the Miami River.

The directors of the state's 39 police academies have asked Gov. Lawton Chiles to veto a Gainesville legislator's plans to use \$750,000 from their \$4.39-million trust fund to improve the Gainesville Raceway. Loss of the trust fund money, they say, would impose a severe financial burden on the police academies, which provide advanced training to more than 73,000 police and correction officers each year.

**GEORGIA** — A group of court and law enforcement officials in Cobb County have proposed that a grant be made to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to set up a crime lab that would work exclusively on the county's cases. Currently, there is such a backlog of drug cases that the county jail population has risen 60 percent in the past 18 months. About 150 drug suspects are constantly awaiting trial. The grant proposal has yet to be approved by the Cobb County Commission.

**LOUISIANA** — New Orleans Police Officer Morris Cavaliere Jr., 29, suffered fatal injuries April 26 when his motorcycle crashed into a private car being driven by an off-duty police officer during an escort for a wedding procession. The accident has prompted the department to review its policy for such events. Cavaliere, an eight-year veteran and long-time member of the motorcycle unit, was thrown 50 feet and suffered multiple injuries.

**NORTH CAROLINA** — Allegations of Hillsborough police officers engaging in sexual activity while on duty, ignoring an assault and engaging in other misconduct have prompted an

investigation by town officials.

Morrisville town officials fired controversial Police Chief Bruce Newnam on April 30, but would not disclose the reason, claiming it involved a confidential personnel matter. Newnam, who had run for mayor and lost, reportedly angered residents when he said he intended to stay on as chief if he had won.

Two state troopers were doused with pepper spray by defense attorneys for Kevin and Tilton Golphin, who are on trial for the murder of Trooper Ed Lowry and Cumberland County Sheriff's Deputy David Hathcock last September. The demonstration was supposed to show that Kevin Golphin acted spontaneously when sprayed with the stinging aerosol. Trooper Curtis Toler testified that his eyes burned, but he was not incapacitated. Trooper Raymond Battle said the spray had no effect on him.

**SOUTH CAROLINA** — The U.S. Justice Department will examine racial disharmony in Greenville, prompted by the killings of four black men by law enforcement officers last year. State NAACP leaders asked for the study, saying state authorities have not adequately investigated the use of deadly force.

The Berkeley County Sheriff Department last month purchased 77 new bulletproof vests, with the \$33,871 bill paid for in part by the seized assets of drug dealers. Last year, Sheriff Wayne DeWitt began drafting a stricter policy regarding the wearing of vests. All road deputies are now required to wear them on-duty; narcotics officers and detectives must don them during special operations and when serving warrants.

Cary Police Chief David Fortson is leaving his post after 10 years to become chief in Rock Hill, S.C., on June 1. Fortson, whom Cary officials described as a "minor god" in the town, was well-liked, with his department receiving an approval rating by residents of 4.34 on a scale of 5. Under his leadership, the Cary P.D. has twice been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

Former McCormick police chief Coke Brown is suing the town, claiming he was discriminated against because he is white. Brown was fired in 1996 after a heated argument with sheriff's Deputy Michael Brown, who is black. His Federal lawsuit alleges that pressure from the NAACP and prominent black citizens forced him out, denying him his expected retirement and insurance benefits, and caused him emotional distress. Brown, who was police chief for 22 years, was replaced by Officer Leroy Martin, who is black.

## Midwest

**ILLINOIS** — Police in Kankakee collected 40 guns, including an illegal sawed-off shotgun, in exchange for Beanie Babies, the bean-bag toys that have sparked a recent collecting craze.

Jail records have reportedly substantiated a claim by a defendant in a 1996

## MOVING?

Don't leave your LEN subscription behind. To ensure best service, please send change-of-address notices to the Subscription Department at least 6-8 weeks prior to effective date.



# Around the Nation

fatal beating that he was incarcerated on an earlier charge when the killing of 40-year-old Alexander Walker took place. The inmate, Mario Hayes, is one of five other defendants in the case, three of whom also claim that Chicago police beat the confessions out of them. Records show that Hayes, 19, was in jail from Oct. 24 until Oct. 28, 1996. Walker, who police say was killed over a drug debt, was beaten to death on Oct. 26 of that year.

**INDIANA** — State Police Sgt. David Smith, who is black, was awarded \$100,000 April 23 to settle his suit against the city of Carmel. He charged that he was stopped by local police while off duty in 1996 solely because of his race.

Indianapolis last month became what is believed to be the only school district in the nation to screen elementary school students for weapons. Under the program, two or three of the city's 62 schools will be screened each week. The schools are chosen by lottery and the students selected randomly. The move was prompted by the arrests of three children who brought guns to school.

**KENTUCKY** — Testimony in the trial of a mentally ill Lone Oak man who shot and killed 27-year-old Alcoholic Beverage Control officer Brandon Thacker has revealed that the defendant, Timothy Doyle, procured the alleged murder weapon after being cleared in a background check under the guidelines of the Brady Act. The form asks if the applicant has ever been adjudicated mentally defective or been committed to an institution, but does not ask whether any such treatment has been received voluntarily.

**MICHIGAN** — Charles Prins, who was charged with shooting two Ionia County deputies on May 1, was found dead of a gunshot wound to the head after a shoot-out with state police. Prins, who belonged to a group that battles local government infringement on property rights, had been embroiled in a dispute with officials trying to force him to clean up his cluttered property. Prins was charged with shooting Deputy Jeff Goss, 34, and Lieut. Robert Schutt, 50, as they tried to arrest him.

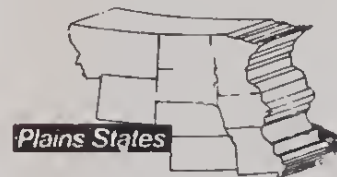
Police used tear gas to break up a crowd of nearly 3,000 Michigan State University students who lit a fire in the city's downtown section on May 3 to protest a ban on drinking in a favorite partying spot. The confrontation came hours after the release of a national study that said the school leads the nation's universities in alcohol-related arrests.

The Crawford County Sheriff's Department will lose nearly half of its 15 deputies as county officials struggle to close a budget gap. With the layoffs of seven deputies, which will save an estimated \$276,000, the Sheriff's Department will stop midnight to 7 A.M. patrols, in addition to eliminating animal control, off-road patrols and marine patrols.

**WEST VIRGINIA** — Monongalia County is one of three counties picked by the state Legislature to start a teen-court pilot program. The idea, said Circuit Judge Russell Clawges Jr., is to put juvenile offenders in front of a jury of

their peers and let peer pressure set them back on the right course. Teen court was originally to be used for only status offenders, but officials had the law changed to include juveniles accused of first- and second-offense misdemeanors.

**WISCONSIN** — The Senate is considering an Assembly-backed "truth-in-sentencing" bill that would require prisoners to serve their full terms, followed by probation. Current laws allow time off for good behavior and early probation.



**IOWA** — Waterloo's Americans With Disabilities Act Compliance Commission said it plans to fight a plan by Police Chief Bernal Koehrsen to cut the "Polaroid Patrol" program, which uses citizens armed with cameras to nail motorists who park in spaces reserved for the handicapped. Only 12 tickets have resulted in fines.

Legislation that calls for chemical castration and an indefinite confinement for the most violent sexual predators was signed into law May 6 by Gov. Terry Branstad.

**MISSOURI** — St. Louis Police Officer Richard Booker Jr. testified last month that his supervisor, Sgt. Thomas Moran, ordered him to revise his report to show that a retarded 20-year-old man who was badly beaten after a fight with officers injured himself slamming into furniture. Officers responding to a burglar alarm at Gregory Bell's home on April 14, 1997, mistook Bell for a suspect. He suffered a broken ankle, cuts and bruises. Moran, 45, who is charged with second-degree assault, has been suspended without pay since last May.

Larry Froistad, 29, was arraigned in May on charges he murdered his daughter after he confessed to the crime on the Internet. As part of an on-line help group for problem-drinkers, Froistad said in a series of E-mails that he had gotten "wickedly drunk," set his house on fire, listened to his 5-year-old scream twice and then faked grief in front of police at news of her death. Froistad confessed to police five days after his on-line confession.

Police in St. Louis are looking for a man who may have some connection to the decapitation of 13-year-old Tiffany Sabourin, whose headless body was found near an athletic field on the campus of Lindenwood University. Her head was found at another undisclosed spot on campus. The man investigators seek is described as a white man in his 20s or early 30s, 5-foot-10 to 6 feet tall, 160 to 170 pounds and wearing a flannel shirt and baseball cap. Police were careful to say the man has not been declared a murder suspect.

**WYOMING** — U.S. Senator Craig Thomas said in May the state's share of money from a Federal anti-drug program will more than double this year. It will receive about \$400,000 to assist law enforcement officers targeting traffickers in known drug corridors.



**ARIZONA** — Arizona State University had the fourth-highest drug-arrest rate of any college campus during 1996, according to a survey by the Chronicle of Higher Education. The school had 117 drug violations, to go along with 317 alcohol violations, 654 burglaries, 37 aggravated assaults and three sexual assaults. Close behind ASU were the University of Arizona and Northern Arizona University. UA had 284 alcohol violations in 1996 and 81 drug arrests, while NAU recorded 168 alcohol arrests and 102 for drugs.

**COLORADO** — The Denver chapter of the NAACP has demanded that the city's Police Department appeal a decision by the Civil Service Commission to reinstate a police officer fired last year for holding a gun to the head of a handcuffed black woman in a holding cell. Officer Matthew D. Graves pleaded guilty to misdemeanor assault charges in the 1996 incident and was dismissed a year later. The Civil Service Commission deemed Graves's punishment too harsh and ordered him reinstated after a one-year suspension without pay.

Boulder County has granted District Attorney Alex Hunter an additional \$150,000 to cover additional investigative expenses when he takes over the JonBenet Ramsey murder case from police in June.

Denver Police Officer Gary Salazar pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor trespassing charge on April 24 in connection with his arrest last January for refusing to leave the home of his ex-girlfriend, local news anchor Julie Hayden. Blood tests showed that Salazar, who now faces a fine of up to \$750 and as much as six months in county jail, was not drunk or impaired when arrested. The department is reviewing whether any internal disciplinary action should be taken.

Walt Vanatta took command of the Craig Police Department on May 4, replacing outgoing chief Rex Splitt. Vanatta, who had been chief in Kemmerer, Wyo., has 27 years of law enforcement experience, including 15 years in command roles.

Old evidence from the 1970 rape and murder of Marilee Burt, a 15-year-old high-school cheerleader, has been submitted for DNA testing. Arapahoe County Sheriff Pat Sullivan said the testing has already eliminated one suspect in the grisly, unsolved killing. Burt was found nude and strangled under a Deer Creek bridge.

**NEW MEXICO** — The attorney for an Albuquerque police officer has formally demanded that the selection of Police Chief Gerald Galvin be rescinded and the selection process be opened up to public scrutiny. The lawyer, Paul Livingston, said he sent the letter on behalf of Officer Mark Bralley who sued the city in March for not releasing the resumes of the 71 police chief applicants. The lawsuit contends

that Galvin's selection violated the state's Open Meetings Act.

A privately funded Campus Crime Stoppers program has been launched at Albuquerque middle and high schools in the wake of vandalism attacks that killed 28 trees and burned \$30,000 worth of pianos in the same week. The Albuquerque Public Schools system loses an estimated \$2 million a year to vandalism. Police arrested two 18-year-old Rio Grande High School students and a 21-year-old man in the tree-destroying incident.

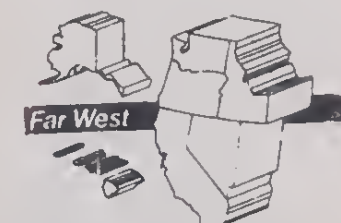
**OKLAHOMA** — Waurika Police Chief Ray Smock spent just a day-and-a-half on the job before quitting, with no reason given for his decision to resign. Smock is the town's sixth police chief since May 1996.

The Tulsa County traffic court held the first of its three scheduled CRASHs courses last month in front of 250 students at Memorial High School, imposing a 60-day sentence on a two-time DUI offender, Frankie Draegger, and escorting him off to jail in handcuffs through the school's cafeteria. The CRASHs program, short for Courts Raising the Awareness of Students in High School, is meant to educate teenagers about the realities of a drunken-driving conviction.

**TEXAS** — Border Patrol agents last month found 2,300 pounds of marijuana and 114 pounds of cocaine wrapped in bundles inside a truck carrying hospital waste. Agents put on protective gear to search the vehicle, which also contained an amputated limb and some intestines.

The Brownsville area is getting 100 Immigration and Naturalization Service agents on temporary assignment as part of an initiative to beef up manpower along the border with Mexico.

Substance-abuse treatment programs would be added to 11 state jails under a proposal awaiting approval from the Texas Board of Criminal Justice. The programs, lasting six to nine months, would serve about 3,000 inmates a year.



**ALASKA** — With the number of alcohol violations in Anchorage high schools rising from 174 during the 1995-1996 school year to 342 last year, school officials are considering the use of breath analysis machines for students who act suspiciously.

**CALIFORNIA** — FBI investigators are probing the death of Emil Matasareanu, one of two men whose holdup of a North Hollywood bank in 1997 ended in a wild shootout with Los Angeles police. The investigation will focus on whether police allowed Matasareanu to die instead of getting him emergency medical care when he surrendered.

A Federal judge ruled that the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians in Riverside may operate its own police

force. A lawsuit was filed last year to force local officials to recognize Indian officers.

Three WWII-era machine guns and four assault rifles were seized May 1 from the home of Bayan Lewis, who served briefly last year as interim Los Angeles police chief, by agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. Lewis had called the agents after his estranged wife threatened to report him for having the firearms. The assault rifles, all illegal to buy since 1989, were purchased prior to the ban and are registered legally with the state. The machine guns have been made inoperable through welding, said Lewis.

A 15-year-old girl told police in Berkeley earlier this month that two men had forced her to rob two Bank of America branches in four days in April. The girl, the youngest female bank theft suspect one investigator said he had seen in over 16 years on the job, handed the teller a handwritten note demanding the money and saying there was a man in line with a gun. In a statement to police, the girl said two men from San Jose had made her commit the crimes, but witnesses said they saw her climb into the back seat of a car driven by a couple.

In a risky legal maneuver, attorneys for Los Angeles top city officials are calling for the removal of a Federal judge because they say statements he has made show an unmitigated bias against police. If successful, U.S. District Judge J. Spencer Letts, who was recently quoted as saying that "police officers always lie," would be barred from hearing cases involving the Police Department's Special Investigations Section. Letts is currently handling several lawsuits stemming from two SIS shootings — one involving a 1995 holdup in Newbury Park in which one robber was killed and another, the plaintiff, was seriously wounded, and five cases stemming from a 1997 armed robbery in Northridge in which a car chase left three of four occupants of a getaway car dead.

A 12-year-old girl and two 13-year-old girls were raped in early April in a Fresno motel room filled with at least 20 men and boys. The girls, who had run away from home, thought they were getting a ride home from the friend of a friend. They walked into the motel room because the driver said he had to visit his cousin. The rapists are believed to be gang members. Five adults and seven juveniles have been arrested.

**HAWAII** — The union for 678 Honolulu city and county police officers last month sued Mayor Jeremy Harris in an effort to force the county to pay officers for their overtime work, rather than giving them compensatory time off.

**WASHINGTON** — Idella Everett, who pleaded guilty to molesting her children in one of the Wenatchee child-sex-ring cases, testified in April that her confession was coerced by Det. Robert Perez, the foster father of one of her daughters. Perez, she said, told her she would not go to prison if she confessed. Everett was sentenced to five years; her husband, who was implicated in her confession, was sentenced to 23 years. The Court of Appeals is considering a judge's recommendation that the couple's guilty pleas be withdrawn.



# People & Places

## Fancy footwork

The Metropolitan Division of the Los Angeles Police Department showed it has the right stuff when it comes to running through mountainous, desert terrain when it placed first in the 14th Annual Baker-to-Vegas Challenge run, which was held April 23-25.

The team of Metro Division officers completed the 20-stage, 120-mile main event in 13 hours, 40 minutes and 23 seconds, said retired officer **Chuck Foote**, who co-founded the race with a fellow LAPD retiree, **Larry Moore**. The two continue to coordinate the event under the auspices of the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club.

More than 10,000 officers in 170 teams from throughout the United States and Canada, as well as a guest team from Great Britain, converged 18 miles north of Baker, Calif., to participate in what Foote said is the single largest police sporting event in the world.

Officers competed in 10 divisions classified by age, sex, mixed gender, types of assignments and agency size. A team of Federal law enforcement officers and an invitational division specially for civilian police employees also competed, Foote told Law Enforcement News.

Each team has 20 runners, relay drivers to transport participants to the race's various stages and a trailing vehicle that must follow teams from start to finish.

The relay race began in the Mojave Desert town and proceeded through mountains to Las Vegas, with the finish line near the Tropicana Hotel and Casino. The stages ranged in distance from 4.6 to 7.1 miles, depending on the degree of difficulty, type of terrain and weather conditions.

Climate conditions during the run can be severe, with temperatures ranging from 100 degrees during the day to nighttime desert chill. Two participants were transported by helicopter to hospitals during the run after they developed minor heat exhaustion, Foote added.

Start times were staggered from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. to allow teams of varying speeds to finish closer together at the casino finish line.

The Metropolitan Division received a crystal stein for its feat, Foote said, while other division winners received trophies.

## Santa Fe trail

Former New Mexico State Police chief **John Denko Jr.** spent three years as a consultant following his 1995 retirement from the agency. But Denko left his life as a private citizen behind last month when he was selected to lead the Santa Fe, N.M., Police Department.

Denko, 56, prevailed over 19 other candidates for the job, including acting Police Chief **Beverly Lennen**, who was appointed on an interim basis following the resignation of former Chief **Carlos Jaramillo**. The new chief was expected to take office on May 4.

Denko had been working as a con-

sultant specializing in security and business management when he was chosen by Santa Fe Mayor **Larry Delgado**.

An Air Force veteran, Denko joined the State Police as a trooper in 1974. He rose through the ranks to serve as supervisor in narcotics and criminal cases, State Police spokesman, and as commander of its Aircraft Bureau. In 1987, he was appointed Special Operations Bureau Chief of the New Mexico Department of Public Safety, of which the State Police is one of five divisions.

From 1991 to his retirement, Denko was the No. 2 official in the Department of Public Safety. As DPS deputy secretary, Denko administered four other DPS divisions, including training and recruiting, special investigations, administrative services and emergency support.

## The price of candor

Seattle Police Chief **Norm Stamper** is probably wishing he hadn't been so candid in a newspaper interview about his experiences as a young patrol officer in San Diego in the late 1960s.

The interview, which appeared in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer on April 24, has provoked controversy within the Seattle Police Department, apparently because of Stamper's recollections of hassling gays and minorities, making racial jokes and effecting false arrests — activities he said were routine in the cop culture of the era.

In the interview, the 53-year-old Stamper was quoted as saying he "enjoyed the morbid humor, the racist humor and the gay-bashing" that regularly occurred then. Stamper, who joined the San Diego Police Department in 1966 and left as assistant chief in 1995 to take the Seattle job, also talked about arresting those who questioned his authority or back-talked — instances he termed unlawful "attitude arrests."

"It was Us and Them," Stamper said, characterizing police-community relations of the time.

"I had joined a family," he continued. "After work, I didn't want to go home. I just sat around with my new buddies, telling 'sea stories' about how we'd jacked around young people and people of color, stopping them for no reason, using every trick in the book to goad them."

While Stamper's recollections made for some colorful reading, his own rank and file are seeing red over his admissions of past transgressions as a San Diego police officer.

Sgt. **Mike Edwards**, who is president of the 1,150-member Seattle Police Officer Guild, said veteran officers — including those who had been whistle-blowers when the SPD was dealing with its own corruption scandal in the 1960s — were particularly disturbed by Stamper's remarks, which he said tended to paint all cops working at that time as rogues.

"They thought his characterizations of those days were just too broad for them, and there weren't any distinctions made for some of the [positive] things they did," said Edwards.

Officers also were angry that they had to learn about the Chief's past through a newspaper account, Edwards told Law Enforcement News. "It was the first time [Seattle officers] had heard

## Closing an eclectic career

### Wes Pomeroy dead at age 78

**Wesley A. Pomeroy**, whose eclectic law enforcement career included assignments as security chief at the Woodstock music festival in 1969, police chief in Berkeley, Calif., and assistant director of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration during the Carter Administration, died May 4 at the age of 78.

Pomeroy, who gained a national reputation for his mediation and crisis-management skills, died of heart failure at a hospital near his Hollywood, Fla., home. Two years ago, Pomeroy had retired as executive director of the Miami Dade Independent Review Panel, which investigates citizens' complaints against city and county agencies. The panel was formed in the aftermath of deadly riots that tore through Miami after a police shooting in 1980.

A native of Burbank, Calif., Pomeroy said he got into law enforcement on a whim, joining the California Highway Patrol in 1942 after placing first on an entrance exam. After two-and-a-half years in the Marine Corps during World War II, Pomeroy returned to the patrol until 1951, when he joined the San Mateo County Sheriff's Department.

Pomeroy rose through the ranks to become San Mateo County undersheriff. In 1964, he was assigned to oversee security for the Republican National Convention in San Francisco, which brought him to the attention of then-Attorney



**Wesley A. Pomeroy**  
*An American original, dead at 78.*

General **Ramsey Clark**. Clark appointed him as a special assistant to coordinate Federal anti-crime efforts.

While at the Justice Department, Pomeroy got the prickly assignment of mediating between anti-war protesters and police at the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago. Chicago Mayor **Richard Daley** rebuffed his mediation efforts, leading to bloody confrontations between protesters and police.

Pomeroy was one of three original officials appointed in 1968 to run the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, but he was replaced soon after President **Richard Nixon** took office. He then went into business as a consultant, and one of his biggest assignments was to coordinate security at the mammoth

Woodstock festival, held near Bethel, N.Y., in August 1969.

Pomeroy returned to law enforcement in 1974, serving four years as Berkeley, Calif., police chief. Washington called again in 1977, when he was appointed special assistant in the Drug Enforcement Administration, followed by a year-long assignment as associate director of the White House Office of Drug Abuse Policy.

Ironically, in his later years, Pomeroy became an advocate for the decriminalization of marijuana, serving on the board of the National Organization of Reform of Marijuana Laws.

He served as executive secretary of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners before becoming director of the Miami Dade review panel.

Former colleagues characterized Pomeroy as a broad-minded man whose ideas often were years before their time. "He was an extremely progressive person — always had been — and he always saw the good side. I think a good way to remember him is as a peacemaker," said **James Stinchcomb**, former director of the Dade County Regional Training Center, which trains area law enforcement officers. "He was somebody who didn't just care about things, but did his best to make them better.... He was an activist in a field that doesn't reward change agents."

any of this so there was a real shock value.... It was something that, all of a sudden, we had to deal with in a very public way," he said.

The Chief cut short a vacation in San Diego by a week and returned to Seattle as internal criticisms about his comments began to boil late last month. While a protest vote of no-confidence was discussed, the union instead decided to meet with Stamper, who agreed that he would not hire an officer who had committed the kinds of abuses to which he himself admitted.

The department indicated that an apology to the entire department issued by Stamper — the text of which was not released publicly — would be its last word on the subject. Stamper also appeared at several roll calls to make apologies personally, and received a lukewarm response from some of his troops, according to Edwards.

## Off to the beach

Boston police Supt. **Joseph C. Carter** will trade bustling city streets for placid beaches when he takes over command of the Oak Bluffs, Mass., Police Department on Martha's Vineyard on June 1 — just in time to greet the influx of summer residents and tourists who converge on resort area each year.

Carter, 42, who has kept a home on the island for the past decade, will head a department that, at fewer than a dozen officers, is considerably smaller than the Boston Police Department, the nation's 10th largest police agency, which he joined in 1978.

But Oak Bluffs officials, who selected Carter out of a pool of nearly 150 other applicants, say he'll have plenty to do in the town of 3,000 full-time residents, a population that swells to 30,000 during the summer months.

Carter was praised by members of the town's four-member selection committee. "Joe Carter is a wonder," said **Kerry Scott**, a business manager who was on the committee. "And Joe Carter the person is congruent with those paper credentials.... People like Joe Carter can change communities. They can have a profound impact."

The appointee also received unqualified support from his current boss, Police Commissioner **Paul F. Evans**, who told The Boston Globe

that Carter has "done an extremely good job" for the BPD, and that his departure "will be a big gain for Oak Bluffs and a big loss for us." Carter unsuccessfully sought the commissioner's job that was ultimately won by **Evans**.

Carter was a fugitive-squad investigator and correction officer at the Suffolk County House of Detention for three years prior to joining the BPD. He spent five years as a police officer and detective, during which time he developed strategies to investigate bias crimes. In 1983, he became the youngest police officer in Boston history to be named a deputy superintendent.

Since 1993, Carter has served as chief administrative hearing officer, presiding over more than 150 disciplinary trial board hearings, reporting directly to **Evans**.

Carter earned a bachelor's degree in organizational behavior from Lesley College in Cambridge and has a master's degree in criminal justice administration from Atlanta University.

## Put more bulk in your reading diet:

Copies of Law Enforcement News are available on a limited basis for bulk distribution to professional conferences, seminars and other gatherings. For more information on how you can help improve the reading diet of your colleagues, please call the Circulation Department at (212) 237-8442.



# Going down...

Crime dropped again in 1997, pre-UCR reports

Reports of serious crime fell nationwide by 4 percent during 1997, the FBI said in its preliminary crime report this month, marking the sixth consecutive year that the nation has recorded significant decreases in crime.

The bureau's Uniform Crime Reporting Program, which compiles crime data submitted by more than 16,000 law enforcement agencies nationwide, said the overall decline represented a 5-percent decrease in violent crimes — murder, robbery, aggravated assault and forcible rape — and a 4-percent drop in property crimes, which includes arson, larceny, motor-vehicle theft and burglary, compared to 1996 levels. Final 1997 figures will be released in the fall.

Among violent crimes, murder and robbery showed the greatest decreases, with each down 9 percent. Aggravated assaults fell by 2 percent, and rape dropped by 1 percent.

The largest decrease in the property-crime category was the 8-percent drop in arson reports. Motor-vehicle theft fell by 5 percent, while larceny-theft and burglary decreased by 4 percent and 3 percent, respectively.

All regions of the nation reported Crime Index decreases,

with the largest — 6 percent — reported in the Northeast. The South reported a 4-percent drop in overall crime, while both the Midwest and West each reported drops of 3 percent.

Violent crime fell by 5 percent in the Northeast and West, and by 4 percent in both the Midwest and the South. Property-crime totals fell by 5 percent in the Northeast, 4 percent in the South and 3 percent in both the Midwest and the West.

Decreases in the numbers of murders were reported by all four regions, with the murder rate in the Northeast taking the biggest plunge — down 13 percent — followed by the West, 11 percent; the South, 9 percent, and the Midwest, 6 percent.

The largest crime drops occurred in cities of all sizes, the FBI reported, with those in the three largest population groups reporting the greatest declines, of 5 percent each. Cities under 10,000 population reported the smallest decrease, at 2 percent. Suburban counties showed a 3-percent drop in crime.

Rural areas were the only parts of the nation to report crime increases. Violent crime rose 1 percent in those jurisdictions, led by a 6-percent increase in robbery. Motor-vehicle thefts rose by 4 percent in rural areas, the FBI added.

Attorney General Janet Reno said several factors are responsible for the continuing downward trend, including a baby-boom population that is gradually aging out of the crime-prone years; declines in the use of crack and crimes associated with it; community policing and aggressive enforcement to get illegal guns off streets; tougher prison sentences, and broader prevention efforts that focus on at-risk juveniles.

While Reno welcomed the news, she said the nation must remain vigilant for any surges in criminal activity and warned against complacency. "Everyone working together has made a difference, but you can't say, 'OK, now let's move on to something else.' We can never relax our vigilance about crime, about enforcement, about prevention. ... There's going to be a new problem down the road."

Reno predicted that more computer-related crimes can be expected in coming years. "The gun may become obsolete as people learn how to hack through and ... accomplish thefts and scams through the Internet," she said. "International crime is going to be more on our radar screen than ever before as ... people become more mobile."

## Disarming development:

# PD to use fake guns for training exercises

Police officers in a suburb of Little Rock, Ark., will use fake guns during training following the accidental shooting of an officer by a colleague during a training exercise in late April.

Officer Tommy Thompson, 31, of the Cabot Police Department was shot once in the upper left arm with a .40-caliber handgun by fellow Officer James Bell as the pair conducted a mock building search along with two other officers at a local high school in the early-morning hours of April 28.

Thompson, who has been with the Cabot force since February 1996, was taken to a North Little Rock hospital, where he was treated and released. He may require reconstructive surgery, said Police Chief Jackie Davis, because he has trouble using his pinkie finger and

thumb, possibly due to nerve damage he sustained from the shooting.

Bell, who joined the department in March 1997 and was participating in the exercise even though he was off duty at the time, was put on paid administrative leave pending an internal investigation, the Chief added. Davis described Bell as "very upset. In other words, I don't have to point any fingers here. He knows what happened."

All of the officers participating in the exercise were certified by the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy, the Chief said. "These guys all work together and they like to train together. James was doing it on his own time. I have no problem with that."

But Davis said he's not waiting for results of the internal investigation be-

fore taking action to prevent another accidental shooting. "It is better to train with real guns for obvious reasons," Davis told The Arkansas Democrat-Gazette following the incident. "But because of what happened, I've ordered red plastic guns."

Davis said the investigation will also examine why other members of the department weren't informed of the exercise, which the officers apparently decided to conduct on their own, without supervisors present. "I encourage training, but there should have been a training supervisor there with them and there wasn't. If I had been told, I would not have allowed them to do it," he said.

The school buildings where the shooting occurred have been used for training exercises for some time, said

Davis. "We have keys to the school, and it's a good place for training at that time of night they were there — 2:30 A.M. — because there's no one at the school then, not even maintenance people."

The officers say they followed procedure for carrying out training exercises like building searches, the Chief added. Before searching the first building, the officers laid their clips and rounds on the ground "and then passed them around for the other officers to check and make sure they weren't loaded," Davis said. "Then they searched that building and everything went fine."

As they prepared to enter a second building, one of the officers decided that the exercise should include a suspect hiding in the structure. "They decided

the suspect would be James Bell. He drove over to the other side and went into the building. Apparently, he had reloaded his gun before he left for the second building, and when he got there, he forgot to unload it," said Davis.

The other officers unloaded their guns and passed them around again for inspection, Davis recounted. "Then they walked into the building. As soon as they did, Bell fired off one shot at them and hit Tommy."

# Police agencies make the cut for 1998 'Innovation' award semifinals

Several Federal, state and local jurisdictions that have launched successful crime-fighting programs in which police play key roles are among the 97 semifinalists for the 1998 Innovations in American Government Award.

Innovation in American Government, known as one of the nation's most prestigious public-service awards programs, is sponsored by the Ford Foundation and administered by Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government in conjunction with The Council for Excellence in Government.

The awards, which this year drew a field of 1,400 applicants, recognize original and effective government initiatives to improve the quality of education, reduce crime and protect the environment, among other aims.

In early September, the group of semifinalists will be whittled down to 25 finalists, 10 of which will be selected to receive awards of \$100,000 each from the Ford Foundation; the remaining finalists will each receive \$20,000. The winners will be announced Oct. 22, following a day of presentations before a judging panel in Washington, D.C.

Among the law enforcement-related semifinalists in the "Protective Services" category are:

■ The Juvenile Justice Alternative-Police Accountability Conferencing program devised by the Anoka, Minn., Police Department, in which specially trained officers facilitate and supervise meetings between first- and second-time offenders and their victims to discuss reasons for the delinquency and ways offenders can make restitution.

■ The Secure Electronic Network for Travelers' Rapid Inspection program, which is said to be the first secure, automated inspection process for automobiles seeking to cross international borders. The project, administered by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, reduces the amount of time it takes to inspect vehicles and increases border security.

■ The Chicago Police Department's Alternative Policing Strategy, which seeks to apply principles of community policing via an expedited service request process that addresses crime-breeding conditions such as abandoned cars, lots and buildings, and graffiti.

■ The Community Policing Activity Management Program, a computer software package developed by the Dallas Police Department that allows officers to record their community policing activities, account for those ac-

tivities and analyze whether their efforts are having an impact.

■ The Community Crime Prevention effort in Fort Pierce, Fla., in which the Police Department uses maps, grids and telephone data base s culled from a

Reverse 911 system to contact residents in a given area and pass along important information about crime-prevention seminars, neighborhood-watch meetings and descriptions of unsolved crimes and suspects wanted by police.

# NYS troopers could find that fitness feels grand

How much is physical fitness worth to New York State Police troopers? It could be as much as \$1,000.

Sworn personnel who meet or exceed prescribed fitness norms and follow nutritional guidelines will soon be eligible for cash bonuses of up to \$1,000. Most will probably get an average of \$750, said Sgt. Christopher Fiore, of the agency's Employee Relations Section.

The program stemmed from a provision in a labor agreement negotiated a couple of years ago in which the agency agreed to provide incentives to encourage troopers to stay fit.

The program, which Fiore said is open to uniformed troopers, investigators and supervisors, began last year

with an orientation session in which participants received information about the effort and underwent assessments of their own physical conditions. Those who attended received a \$250 stipend.

The real payoff begins next month, Fiore told Law Enforcement News, when about 3,000 troopers will begin testing their mettle against physical fitness norms developed by the Cooper Institute for Aerobic Research. About 900 investigators will participate in the fall, said Fiore.

The fitness test will include push-ups, sit-ups and a 1.5-mile run. Everyone who participates in the second phase is guaranteed \$75, Fiore said. Troopers who do exceedingly well could earn up to the maximum.

## Law Enforcement News

Founded 1975.

A publication of

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York.  
Gerald W. Lynch, President

Marie Simonelli Rosen  
Publisher

Peter C. Dodenhoff  
Editor/Associate Publisher

Jacob R. Clark  
Staff Writer

Jennifer Nislow  
Contributing Writer

Mary Mele  
Subscriptions

Lisa Leslie  
Editorial Assistant

Correspondents: Hugh J.B. Cassidy, Jack Dowling, Tom Gitchoff, T.L. Tyler, Ron Van Raalte.

Law Enforcement News is © 1998 and published twice monthly (once monthly during July and August) by LEN Inc. and John Jay College of Criminal Justice, 899 Tenth Avenue, New York, NY 10019. Telephone: (212) 237-8442. Fax: (212) 237-8486. Subscription rates: \$22 per year (22 issues). Advertising rates available upon request.

Requests for permission to reprint any portion of Law Enforcement News in any form should be addressed to Marie Simonelli Rosen, Publisher. ISSN: 0364-1724. Law Enforcement News is available in microform from University Microfilms Inc., 300 North Zeeb Road, Dept. P.R., Ann Arbor, MI 48106.



# Drug cases send wiretaps to 30-year high

The number of wiretaps authorized by judges for law enforcement rose to its highest level in 30 years in 1997, with nearly 1,200 approvals granted, the vast majority of them to gather evidence and obtain information in drug investigations.

A report released this month by the Administrative Office of U.S. Courts said that judges last year authorized 1,186 wiretaps, of which 1,094 were activated by law enforcement. The previous high of 1,100 authorizations was reached in 1994, while just 10 years ago, judges approved only 634 wiretap

requests from law enforcement.

Under a 1968 law intended to prevent civil-rights abuses arising from unrestricted police surveillance, state and Federal authorities who want to place a wiretap must convince a judge there is no other method of obtaining information in criminal investigations.

The wiretaps last year recorded over 2.7 million conversations among 216,000 people — both record figures. Only about 20 percent of the bugged conversations contained incriminating information. Arrests resulting from wiretaps rose nearly 25 percent in 1997

over the previous year, but the conviction rate of 17 percent was the lowest in a decade.

While private telephones were the device most often bugged by law enforcement, rising numbers of taps are being placed on cellular phones, pagers, e-mail and fax machines.

Although most of the wiretaps were authorized in drug investigations, the remainder mostly were used in gambling and racketeering probes, the report said. The areas in which taps were

most often requested included New York City, southern Florida, central California and northern Illinois.

Gordon Armstrong, a professor of criminal justice at Georgia Southern University, told USA Today that the trend shows that state and local governments continue to take the threat of drugs seriously. "The magic word [to get permission to wiretap] used to be 'organized crime.' Now a prosecutor says 'drugs,' and the judge sits straight up in his chair," he said.

But others say law enforcement's increasing use of wiretaps marks an ominous shift that could threaten civil liberties.

"At the same time [wiretaps] are becoming far more intrusive, they're becoming less useful," said David Banisar of the Electronic Privacy Information Center in Washington, D.C., which has led opposition to law enforcement efforts to expand wiretapping capabilities to include encrypted computer transmissions.

## Coming up in LEN:

After nearly 20 years in business, what exactly is going on with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies? Find out in a candid interview with CALEA's chairman, former police chief and IACP president Sylvester Daughtry.

## Bad things in small packages: Interpol warns of key-ring gun

Interpol has issued a warning to U.S. law enforcement agencies to be on the lookout for a tiny but lethal device that sounds like something out of a James Bond espionage novel — a three-inch-long device that looks like a key chain but is actually a .32-cal. pistol.

At an inch wide and a half-inch thick, the weapon is about the size of a cigarette lighter. It has push-buttons that fire bullets from the device's two barrels, as well as a locking button to secure the weapon when not in use. The key ring is pulled out so the device can be loaded with ammunition.

John Imhoff, chief of the U.S. National Central Bureau of Interpol, an international police consortium, says the "potential threat" is attractive to ter-

rorists because its benign appearance makes it easy to smuggle through airport security systems.

"It's a key ring, and when we all go through the airport, we place them in a bowl [and not] through the magnetometer," Imhoff said. "It's the sort of device that would not receive sufficient scrutiny."

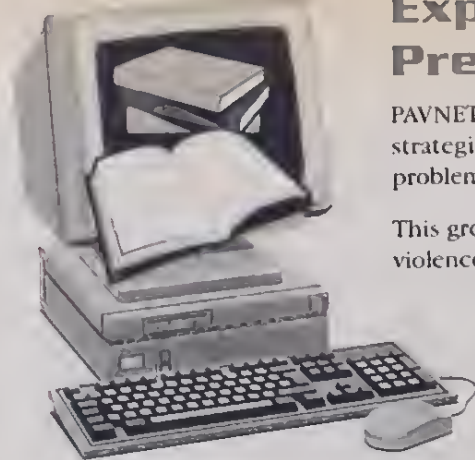
Imhoff speculated that a very small number of the devices are circulating, since they are probably expensive to produce. "This is the sort of thing 'Q' would design for James Bond," said Imhoff. "I expect this is a truly small operation."

Interpol, which has links with 177 governments worldwide, confirmed a report in The New York Times this

month that seizures of the weapon had occurred this year at airports in Athens, Greece, and Perth, Australia. A third gun was seized last December at London's Gatwick Airport.

The device is said to be easy to obtain in southern Europe and "can be walked through an airport metal detector without activating the alarm," depending on the security system in use, according to an Interpol advisory.

No sightings of the device have yet been reported in the United States, according to officials of the Federal Aviation Administration and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. "We're aware of this; there's nothing to worry about," said ATF spokesman Jeff Roehm.



## Explore a Free "Virtual Library" on Preventing Violence

PAVNET—the Partnerships Against Violence Network—is a national online database of diverse antiviolence strategies that communities can adapt to help them tackle their community, family, and youth violence problems.

This growing central repository contains descriptions of programs that have helped communities combat violence.

### PAVNET Makes Hunting for Information Easy

Searching this database of more than 1,100 listings is easy. The Web site is powered by a full-text search engine.

#### Typical topics include:

- |                     |                             |                                |                         |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| school violence     | handgun violence            | school dropout prevention      | child and elderly abuse |
| conflict resolution | domestic violence           | substance abuse                | gang violence           |
| sexual abuse        | afterschool/summer programs | volunteers in program services |                         |

### PAVNET's Benefits

- Link to award-winning programs, such as Harvard University's Innovations in American Government
- Find out about funding resources and technical assistance for State and local programs.
- Link to other antiviolence coalitions, community partnerships, and resources.
- Browse the directory of Federal Internet sites and clearinghouses.
- Read abstracts of videotapes, publications, and other teaching materials.

### Join Online Discussions about Violence

Police officers, psychotherapists, social workers, students, program administrators, and criminal justice practitioners comprise the more than 500 PAVNET listserv subscribers who post questions and answers about the hottest topics on violence.

<http://www.pavnet.org>

A collaborative effort by the U.S. Departments of Justice, Agriculture, Education, Labor, Housing and Urban Development, Defense, and Health and Human Services.



# Dallas poll: Mandate sirens in some cases

There are residents of some American cities who think of police sirens as part of the music of urban streets, with flashing lights providing the stage show. In Dallas, residents canvassed in a recent poll seemed resoundingly to say, "Crank up the music."

Sixty-five percent of Dallasites who responded to a telephone survey by The Dallas Morning News said that police should be required to activate their cars' sirens and sirens when traveling 10 mph or more over the speed limit as they race to emergencies, provide officer backup or respond to crimes in progress.

Of the 1,396 adults who were asked for their views on the issue, 24 percent agreed with the Police Department policy of leaving it up to the officer whether to use lights and sirens — as long as they give "careful consideration" to external factors like weather, traffic and road conditions. Eleven percent were unsure or did not answer the question.

Support for such a requirement crossed the demographic spectrum, with 84 percent of black residents favoring the policy change, along with 61 percent of whites and 58 percent of Hispanics. Support for a change was roughly consistent among age groups and income brackets, the newspaper reported. Sixty-one percent of males supported a change, compared with 69 percent of females.

Concern about the issue has grown

over the past few years because of a string of motor-vehicle accidents involving speeding police cruisers with no lights or sirens on, some which ended in civilian deaths. At least four civilians have died in traffic accidents involving police cruisers since 1993,

Despite broad public support for a policy change, many police want sirens and lights to remain discretionary so they can sneak up and "catch the bad guy in the act."

The Morning News reported. In at least two cases, survivors of victims have filed wrongful-death lawsuits against the city and the Dallas Police Department.

Supporters of the current policy say the discretion to use lights and sirens gives police the ability to sneak up on wanted suspects or arrive at the scene of a crime-in-progress without tipping off criminals to their presence.

Should officers lose that discretion, "[T]here's going to be more burglars not getting caught and more disturbances escalating into cuttings and shootings," predicted Sgt. John E. Long Jr.

Senior Cpl. Glenn White, president of the Dallas Police Association, said he expects the policy to be changed, but "to what extent, I'm not sure." Officers prefer the "silent approach" when snaring criminals, he said. "We always like to catch the bad guy in the act," the 20-year veteran told The Morning News.

As it currently appears in the Police Department's general orders, the policy notes that "some law enforcement goals may be better served" if an in-the-act offender is not alerted to the officer's arrival. In regulating their speed, officers are told to consider carefully such factors as "the nature and seriousness of the offense, weather conditions, traffic control devices, character of the neighborhood, traffic volume, road and vehicle conditions."

A nine-officer panel appointed in March by Police Chief Ben Click is reviewing the agency's emergency-response procedures. "The [survey] response reflects a priority the department shares with the public about the safety of our citizens and its officers," said Ed Spencer, a department spokesman. "If ways can be identified to strengthen procedures, training and equipment, the Chief will do that."

Lieut. Wayne Slaughter, who chairs the panel, would not comment on the newspaper survey's findings, but he said the committee is "zeroing in" on several issues that Click asked them to clarify. He said the panel's work will

continue for several more weeks.

Relatives of some individuals who have been killed in crashes involving police cruisers say the Police Department would be well served to take into account the survey results as it mulls possible policy changes.

"I think most people think it needs to be changed," said David Hartke, 36, whose stepdaughter, Dolores Gallegos, was killed Feb. 8 in a crash with a police cruiser that was speeding without its lights and sirens on. "I don't understand why the Police Department has not adopted [changes]. They just feel everything's hunky-dory, and if a couple of people die it's no skin off their nose."

Hartke's wife, Yolanda, has filed a wrongful-death lawsuit against the city, alleging that the policy led to her daughter's death. Officer Francis Scott Crump, 29, whose speed was estimated to be at least 70 mph — twice the posted limit — suffered minor injuries and was treated at a local hospital.

A Dallas County grand jury declined in April to indict Crump on

criminal charges, but he remains on paid administrative leave, pending the results of an internal investigation.

Officials said the review was ordered because of a pending wrongful-death lawsuit filed by the survivors of Megan Jones, who was killed along with her friend, Katherine Findlay, also 18, when a patrol officer who did not use his flashing lights or siren slammed into them as he sped to the aid of a fellow officer. An autopsy showed that Findlay, the driver of the Jeep, was legally drunk at the time of the accident.

A grand jury decided not to indict Senior Cpl. Tommy Ames on criminal charges stemming from the wreck.

## Sound off!

If you've got something to say on a topical criminal justice issue, why not reach the most influential audience available, by publishing your comments in LEN. Contact the editor for details.

## Win-win deal hailed as county sells police academy to college

Essex County, N.J., is planning to get out of the law enforcement training business by selling the Police Academy it has run for a decade to a local college for \$4 million. Officials say the move will help close a looming budget gap as well as complement the college's existing criminal justice program.

The academy, which was formerly operated by the Essex County Police Chiefs' Association, trained over 200 police recruits and correction officers last year in addition to numerous deputy sheriffs and juvenile officers. The chiefs' association turned it over to the county in the mid-1980s after rising insurance rates led to a funding crisis.

Now the facility is poised to be taken over by Essex County College, a move that college president A. Zachary Yamba said will enhance the institution's 20-year-old criminal justice program. "The program fits with the mission of the college and it is a logical extension of what we've been doing for the past 20 years with our criminal justice program," said Yamba.

The academy will most likely operate as an arm of the college, Yamba told The Newark Star-Ledger, and as such, might veer away from the paramilitary-style of training that is typical of most police academies. "[O]ur society needs a more balanced approach that presents the more humanistic and sociological aspects of law enforcement," he said.

The sale, which must be approved by county freeholders, recalls an arrangement 10 years ago when Gloucester County officials provided start-up costs for its county college in exchange for taking over its police academy. Somerset County also is pursuing the notion of transferring its po-

lice academy to the Raritan Valley Community College.

"Trends in law enforcement training are changing — and they are changing in the direction of increased professionalism," said Essex County Executive James Treffinger. "By combining these two county resources — the county college and the existing police training facility — we will be able to deliver increased and improved services to our taxpayers."

The sale of the facility is an integral part of the \$459-million budget that Treffinger has proposed for this year. Freeholders, who are expected to take a final vote on the budget by early June, are said to be concerned about the academy's \$250,000 deficit last year.

Yamba, whose college applied for a \$2-million grant and \$2-million loan from the New Jersey Educational Facilities Authority to acquire the academy, is expected to appear before the freeholders prior to the vote to discuss the finances behind the deal. The loan would be made available through the sale of bonds, which must be guaranteed by the county. The college would be required to pay back the loan.

Yamba, who told The Star-Ledger that he was initially skeptical about the deal, said that based on the academy's recent enrollment history, the college could expect to receive up to \$400,000 in increased state aid. The academy, which currently runs two training cycles, could add a third, making it more economically sufficient, he said.

The academy also could attract new customers in nearby municipalities outside the county seeking training services for their police forces, Yamba noted. It also could enroll aspiring law

enforcement officers who would pay to take training courses in order to get a competitive advantage in the job market. Tuition could run from \$3,500 for basic police training and \$2,800 for the corrections program.

Essex County municipalities have not paid to have their law enforcement recruits trained, an arrangement that will most likely continue, Yamba said.

About 350 students are pursuing associates degrees in law enforcement at the college this academic year. Many of them will go on to earn bachelor's and master's degrees at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City under a special arrangement between the two institutions.

## !!!SAVE THIS DATE!!!

Tuesday, August 18, 1998

FOR

### The School Safety Conference and Workshop

COVERING ESSENTIAL TOPICS ON SCHOOL SAFETY & SECURITY

SPONSORED BY

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER/ SMI  
JOHN JAY COLLEGE OF  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE/ CUNY**

(Recently ranked #1 Graduate Studies Program, Criminal Justice Policy by US News & World Report)

LOCATION

445 West 59<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 1311N  
New York, NY 10019

For further Information Contact:  
(212) 237-8638



## Summer Seminars by the Sea

**COURSES IN RESPONDING TO CHILD MALTREATMENT**  
Increase professional skills in assessment, treatment, investigation and prosecution of child maltreatment. Choose from one of three small groups running concurrently each week. Seminars held 8:00 AM - 12:00 Noon daily, afternoons are free to discover the relaxed lifestyle of this sunny cosmopolitan city!

### SEMINAR I, AUGUST 3-7, 1998, WESTGATE HOTEL

- Object Relations Theory and Therapy For Families and Adults Abused as Children
- Childhood Dissociative Disorders: Bio/Psycho/Social Approach
- Advanced Investigation in the Sexual Exploitation of Children

### SEMINAR II, AUGUST 10-14, 1998, HOLIDAY INN ON THE BAY

- Children with Sexual Behavior Problems: Interviewing, Assessment, Treatment
  - Understanding & Using Evidence in Cases of Child Physical/Sexual Abuse
- Forensic Interviewing Techniques & Expert Witness Testimony in Child Abuse Cases

To be added to the mailing list call, 619/495-4940, fax 619/974-8018  
or E-mail dmarinccp@compuserve.com

Presented by the Center for Child Protection, Children's Hospital - San Diego

**Children's**  
Hospital  
and Health  
Center



de Werk:

## The medical-marijuana smokescreen

By Art de Werk

The Wyoming State Legislature recently considered a bill that would classify marijuana as a "Schedule II" drug in this state — if the Federal Government does the same. This means that physicians would be able to legally prescribe marijuana for patients as needed.

The bill seemed hardly worth noticing, and media coverage of it was scant. Even to those aware of the bill, it did not seem like much of an issue. Marijuana legalization proponents have been seeking its reclassification since the early 1970's, but it has not happened yet — and it won't likely happen in the future, either. For the Feds to declare marijuana a Schedule II drug, it would have to undergo rigorous testing by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), with the (improbable) conclusion that it is a "safe and effective medicine." The Wyoming Senate resoundingly defeated the bill, so it would seem that the issue is now moot. But is it really?

The importance of this marijuana "medicalization" bill can be found in the subtleties of what is really going on. First, those who have worked the hardest for the reclassification, by way of their affiliation with the likes of the National Organization for Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), have made no secret of their agenda to liberalize laws associated with personal marijuana use. In fact, several previous (and unsuccessful) attempts to pass legalization legislation have occurred here in Wyoming. But having failed to rally public support for outright legalization, the drug-use advocates have turned to more stealthy methods that focus on achieving their goal step-by-step. Witness California, where "medicalized" marijuana is now legal. Although the California law revision was sold to the public as a medical issue for suffering patients, "cannabis clubs" have now proliferated across the state. The

"medical use" provision for marijuana leaves so many loopholes that law enforcement officers have all but abandoned their enforcement efforts regarding this drug. Arizona has a similar law, there is a

positive light. Once marijuana's image has been changed from that of a harmful substance to a beneficial one, the public will become more inclined to support decriminalization or outright le-

"The general public, as well as law enforcement leaders throughout this country, need to recognize that the so-called 'medicalization' of marijuana is a red-herring issue, designed to cast the drug in a positive light."

push for similar legislation in Colorado, and as the legalization proponents gain momentum, even more states will fall to these tactics.

The general public, as well as law enforcement leaders throughout this country, need to recognize that the so-called "medicalization" of marijuana is a red-herring issue, designed to cast the drug in

galization in the future. Neither the American Medical Association nor any other reputable medical or health organization backs marijuana as a viable medical treatment. Even if testing could prove marijuana to be safe and effective, there is now a synthetic form of marijuana's key ingredient, THC, sold under the brand name Marinol,

which can be legally administered by physicians to appropriate patients. This synthetic is free of the 400-plus chemicals, including known carcinogens, that are inhaled when marijuana is smoked. And by the way, there is no legal drug in this country that is consumed by smoking it. Nicotine is considered by many to be a drug, but it is not recognized as such by the FDA.

The medicalization movement comes at a time when, in my community of Casper, Wyo., 29 percent of high school seniors have used marijuana during the past month and some 46 percent have used it during the past year. Tragically (although not surprisingly), 16 percent of all seniors have also tried methamphetamine. With the activities in California and several other Western States, coupled with the ever-increasing pro-marijuana rhetoric, publicity and disinformation, the choices for our young people become only more confusing.

Continued on Page 9

McVay:

## How to DVERT family violence

By Cynthia McVay

The Colorado Springs Police Department responds to more than 15,000 domestic violence calls a year and makes approximately 4,500 arrests. Like many "family secret" crimes, domestic violence is underreported; in fact, it is estimated that only 1 in 10 domestic-violence incidents is actually reported. If correct, this suggests a staggering number of domestic-related incidents and victims in the Colorado Springs area.

Just as violence represents the breakdown of

(Cynthia McVay is the DVERT Staffing Coordinator with the Colorado Springs, Colo., Police Department.)

communication and the failure of a personal relationship, it also represents the failure of a community to protect its members and maintain its own good health. With the recognition that family-violence prevention is central to the reduction of community violence, the Colorado Springs Police Department has moved strongly since 1984 in support of a more effective approach to dealing with family violence. Working closely with other community-based efforts, most notably the Center for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, the Fourth Judicial District Attorney's Office and the Department of Human Services, the CSPD has continued to refine and enhance a collective, comprehensive response to a common community.

With support and funding from both the Justice Department's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services and the Violence Against Women Office, our efforts culminated on June 18, 1996, with the formal announcement of a collaborative program called the Domestic Violence Enhanced Response Team (DVERT).

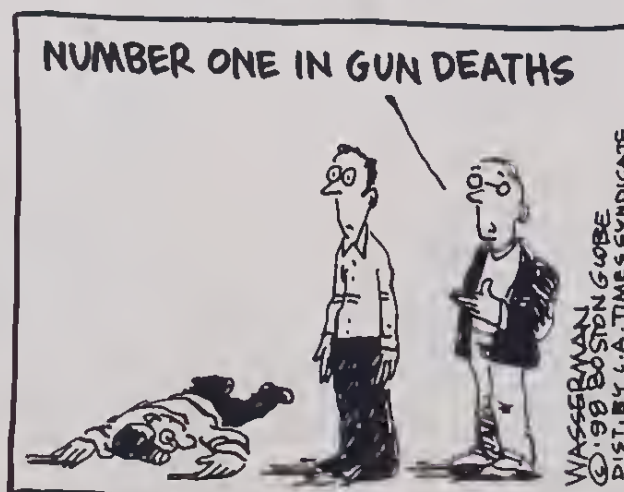
DVERT is implemented throughout El Paso and Teller counties with cooperation from all local law enforcement agencies and other allied agencies and organizations. It represents a full-system response involving the primary team noted above, as well as secondary specialized forces such as the Juvenile and Sex Crimes units, Child Victim Services, Children's Advocacy Center, Senior Victim Services, the Humane Society and Pikes Peak Arkansas River Legal Aid.

This multidisciplinary, multi-tiered program first identifies and flags high-risk domestic cases through an ongoing staffing process. An on-call response team is available 24 hours a day to assist patrol officers where a DVERT-identified perpetrator has committed an offense. The team provides immediate, aggressive intervention and enhanced investigation in a single, coordinated, comprehensive response. Ongoing legal, counseling, advocacy, shelter, educational and support services are also available to victims as needed through the DVERT collaboration.

In the first 16 months since its inception, DVERT received approximately 175 referrals, representing at least 350 victims and perpetrators. (Multiple victims have been identified in about 10 currently active cases.) Approximately 131 of the cases involved children (roughly 75 percent of the total caseload). Currently, however, the child-involved caseload appears to be running even higher — 86 percent of 116 active cases. A total of approximately 327 children have been involved. And overall, about 677 individuals have been affected by DVERT so far.

In terms of recidivism, not enough time has

Continued on Page 11



### Note to Readers:

The opinions expressed on the Forum page are those of the contributing writer or cartoonist, or of the original source newspaper, and do not represent an official position of Law Enforcement News.

Readers are invited to voice their opinions on topical issues, in the form of letters or full-length commentaries. Please send all materials to the editor.



# NJSP denies 'racial profiling' allegations

Faced with a groundswell of criticism following the shootings of three black and Hispanic men during a traffic stop on April 23, New Jersey State Police officials have denied that troopers use racial profiling to pull over suspected drug dealers traveling on the state highways they patrol.

The State Police Superintendent, Col. Carl A. Williams, issued a strongly worded statement to that effect on May 11, as controversy continued to swirl around the mysterious shooting incident, about which the three victims, the two troopers involved and witnesses at the scene have given wildly differing accounts.

"It is extremely important that the public, as well as the state troopers enforcing our laws and statutes, and the media representatives reporting on State Police activities, understand that racial profiling — or any form of discrimination, for that matter — is not and will not be tolerated," said the statement by Williams. "The New Jersey State Police does not condone the use of racial profiling as a basis for any type of police action or motor-vehicle stop."

Law enforcement agencies nationwide are once again grappling with allegations that they use racial profiling to stop suspected drug dealers. Earlier this year, Congress approved a proposal to have the Justice Department conduct a study of the race and ethnicity of motorists involved in traffic stops by state and local police.

A bill under consideration in Rhode Island—and vehemently opposed by the State Police there — would require the agency to keep detailed records about drivers and passengers in vehicles they stop, including information about race, sex and age. [LEN, April 15, 1998.]

The recent incident in New Jersey is not the first time that troopers have been accused of racial bias in their enforcement activities. In 1996, a state court found that although nearly all drivers exceed the 55 mph speed limit on the busy New Jersey Turnpike, minority drivers are pulled over for speeding much more often than white motorists. The presiding judge called the practice "selected enforcement" achieved by "targeting blacks for investigation and arrest."

Some have observed that the motorists in such cases are pulled over for nothing more than DWB — "Driving While Black."

One of the troopers involved in the recent incident, John Hogan, has made at least 19 arrests from traffic stops that defense lawyers argued were based on racial profiling of black or Hispanic drivers. One attorney, John L. Weischel, said he had identified a pattern of eight cases since 1995 in which Hogan pulled over Hispanic drivers for traffic violations and later conducted searches that resulted in drug arrests. All of the stops involved Dodge vans — the same make as that involved in

the shooting incident — were driven by Hispanics and resulted in seizures of heroin and cocaine.

On April 23, Hogan and another trooper, James Kenna, stopped a 1997 Dodge Caravan with New York plates traveling through Washington Township on the turnpike. Inside the van were four New York City men — Danny Reyes, 20, the driver, Keshon L. Moore, 22; Rayshawn Brown, 20, and Leroy Grant, 23 — who were on their way to a basketball camp in North Carolina.

A State Police account of the incident issued the following day said that as the two troopers walked toward the stopped van, it swung into reverse, striking Hogan and causing both to start shooting. The van struck their cruiser, then backed onto the roadway, hitting a Honda Accord, which hit the center divider and burst into flames.

Police say the van then drove forward, headed straight for the two troopers, who responded by firing "several rounds from their service weapons at the approaching vehicle." The van came to rest on the right shoulder of the road, and three men injured in the shooting — Reyes, the most seriously injured with four gunshot wounds to his right

arm and torso; Grant, who was hit in the knee; and Brown, who was grazed by a bullet — were removed from the vehicle.

A press release issued by Williams's office said the incident began when the two troopers "obtained a speed reading from radar" that indicated the van was "traveling at 74 mph in the turnpike's 55 mph zone." However, lawyers for the victims, including Johnnie Cochran, formerly of the O.J. Simpson criminal defense team, maintain that neither the troopers nor their cruiser were equipped with radar.

David G. Ironman, an attorney representing Reyes, said that the windows of Reyes's vehicle were shattered by gunfire in the back and sides rather than the windshield, as might be expected in a shooting of an oncoming vehicle. No drugs or other contraband were found in the van, he said.

In an interview from his hospital room, Reyes told The New York Daily News that one of the troopers broke the side window of the van with his baton and fired inside. Reyes, who was in the front passenger seat, said the car was accidentally put into reverse and that the troopers kept firing despite his pleas to stop.

Peter Neufeld, another former member of the O.J. Simpson defense team who is representing the van's occupants, disputed the number of shots fired by the troopers. The State Police claim 11 shots were fired, Neufeld said that three of the men had 12 bullet entry wounds.

The driver of the Honda, Eric Jusino, said through his attorney that he saw the troopers shoot at the van after it had rolled down into a ditch along the turnpike, and not while it was moving slowly back across the road. Attorney Jeff Sonder added that his client said the car caught fire sometime later than rather immediately, as the State Police account claimed, allowing Jusino and his female passenger to escape serious injury.

Another motorist who drove by the scene also gave an account that was at odds with the State Police report. Juan Polk said he saw two state troopers firing at the vehicle from the back and also noted not one but two police vehicles at the scene. "They were blasting away," Polk told The Daily News. "They were shooting at the back windows, shooting down into the car. It was going forward; the backup lights never came on."

## Forum: Muddled messages on medical marijuana

Continued from Page 8

ing. The message is further blurred when marijuana is proclaimed to be not only harmless, but actually imbued with safe and effective medicinal properties.

It is no wonder, therefore, that teen usage of marijuana has tripled in the last several years. They are exposed to a strong message of "just say no" from most parents, the DARE program and other forums, while NORML and a minority of politicians and other public figures assert that marijuana is not only harmless, but can actually be good for you! Unfortunately, it seems the "say yes" advocates get more media coverage while the rest sit silent on the subject.

So much for the numerous studies which confirm the harmful physical and psychological effects of smoking marijuana. It is simply not the innocuous drug that so many would have you believe. Marijuana has destructive results that include addiction, lung cancer, coordination and perception impairment, memory loss, reproductive disabilities, immune system degradation, depression, hostility, increased aggressiveness and a number of mental disorders.

Study upon documented study also proves that marijuana, for some, serves as a gateway drug to using such substances as cocaine, methamphetamine and heroin. Do not for one moment believe that those presently addicted to opiates and other destructive drugs made the leap from no drug usage at all to becoming hard-core substance abusers. The vast majority of those addicts

used marijuana in the past or still use it as a sideline activity.

Fortunately, only seven Wyoming senators voted for this bill, while the others took a firm stance against it. But make no mistake, this recent legislative proposal is a harbinger of things to come, and the legalization effort (in this state) won't end at this point. States with a less vigilant population will get the way of California and Arizona, while NORML and its accomplices will keep on with the pressure, the publicity campaigns and the disinformation. And who will be the first to fall prey to such tactics? You guessed it: our young people, whose drug-use choices are already difficult enough!

One of our elected state officials recently stated on Wyoming Public Radio that he will continue to sponsor similar bills, each and every year until one is passed. Thus, if we fail to pay attention to the facts and the proponents' tactics, time could easily hand us a marijuana law so weakened that it will become de facto legalized.

I praise those who voted against this ill-conceived bill, and I urge everyone in this state to pay attention, and thoroughly study this issue and the facts before deciding which position to take on it. I firmly believe that by keeping our eyes open, no such bill has a chance of passing legislative muster in the future. As for the legislative proponents, they need to be sent a very strong message of dissent by the voters. This issue is about our kids, our community and our future.

## Headlines are not enough

Affirmative-action programs looking a little black & blue  
The jury is still out on community policing  
It's a mother  
Time to rethink academy & field training  
Maternity-leave  
Law force is too much  
With mandate to produce  
on police use of excessive force

To do a tough job in changing times, you need timely, comprehensive, straightforward information. For the latest trends and ideas, turn to **Law Enforcement News**. Twenty-two times a year, we'll put you in touch with the thinking of those who are shaping law enforcement policy and practice.

**YES!** I'm ready for the professional advantage of **Law Enforcement News**. Enter my one-year subscription and bill me just \$22.00. (Return the coupon to LEN, 899 10th Avenue, New York, NY 10019.)

Name/Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Agency \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**Law Enforcement News**

A publication of John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY

(51598)



# CHIEFS, MANAGERS AND OFFICERS

ADVANCE POLICING IN YOUR  
DEPARTMENT THROUGH  
COLLEGE-EDUCATED OFFICERS

ENROLL OFFICERS WITH  
BACCALAUREATE DEGREES  
AND FORM A CHAPTER OF THE

## AMERICAN POLICE ASSOCIATION

5200 Leeward Lane, Suite 102,  
Alexandria, Virginia 22315  
Tel. (703) 971-7935 FAX (703) 922-2768

# Study laments slow growth of women in law enforcement

Continued from Page 1  
unrelated to job performance."

Also cited was widespread discrimination on the job, including "unpunished, unchecked and unrelenting abuse" that drives some women out of policing. Recruitment efforts focus on "ex-military [personnel] and at military bases that are disproportionately populated by men." In addition, the study cited law enforcement's continued promotion of the "outdated" paramilitary-style of policing as another barrier to progress for women.

"The whole system is still very anti-women. It's changing, but very slowly," noted Harrington, who added that the center plans to conduct the study annually, as well as survey progress in rural and Federal law enforcement agencies.

Agencies that wish to improve on the proportion of women in their ranks should review recruiting policies "in conjunction with women's groups in their community," Harrington suggested. "They should take an honest look at what the barriers to women are in their department. Look at entry exams and see in what areas women wash out in greater percentages than men, and then look at those particular processes and ask why?"

Departments can also look to local colleges and universities, as well as with minority organizations such as the NAACP and the National Urban League, to develop a pool of qualified female applicants, Harrington added. "Develop a recruiting program that truly reaches out to the community," she

exhorted.

"They must truly look at the entire system, talk to women in the department about the problems they face, and be prepared to deal with that," Harrington noted. "This is a lot of work that requires a lot of self-examination many agencies are not willing to do."

## First or last, PD's try to better their lot

Police recruiters in the agencies with the highest and lowest numbers of female officers, supervisors and commanders say they are retooling their recruiting efforts to focus on improving their standing.

Sgt. Lavonne Bickerstaff of the Pittsburgh Division of Police, which ranked first in the percentage of women in its ranks in a national survey conducted by the National Center of Women and Policing, acknowledged that the agency's No. 1 ranking came about because the department had been under a court order to add women and minorities for more than 15 years.

The order required the agency to hire one black male, one white female and one black female for each white male hired from 1975 to 1991, she said. As a result, nearly 25 percent of all police officer and supervisory positions up to the rank of lieutenant, as well as 37 percent of the top command slots, were held by women last year — a showing that the department plans to improve upon even further, Bickerstaff told Law Enforcement News.

"We're taking a whole new look at our recruitment efforts because we don't want to lose our lead," said Bickerstaff, a 12-year veteran of the department who is overseeing the agency's plans for a major recruiting push next year, when for the first time it will offer training courses on effective recruiting techniques and boost its pool of recruiters.

Recruiters will travel statewide, focusing their efforts heavily on colleges, universities and private industry, Bickerstaff noted, and women now serving the agency will be drafted to play a crucial role in the effort. "We're going to put women who have had successful careers in the police force out front to show others they can attain this and move up," Bickerstaff said.

Attracting women recruits has been difficult for many state police agencies, including the North Carolina Highway Patrol, which was ranked at the bottom of the survey, with only 11 female officers among its authorized strength of 1,380 sworn personnel.

That number has risen to 19 since the study's data were collected, noted Sgt. Troy Butler, a recruiter for the Highway Patrol. Four of them are currently in supervisory positions, while four others will join the agency once they complete academy training later in the year, Butler told LEN.

The agency has tapped military bases, job fairs, college and universities — even aerobics classes and women's athletic events — to in-

crease its pool of female recruits, Butler noted. More than 50 recruits will fan out across the state this year "with their main objective being to recruit females," he added.

Sgt. Patricia Poole, a 12-year veteran of the Highway Patrol who serves as a first-line supervisor in Davidson County, acknowledged barriers to women exist in agencies such as the Highway Patrol. Troopers have no say in their assignments, she said, which can cause family stresses, and they often patrol alone

"It's dangerous, especially in a rural state like this, and it's not getting any easier nowadays."

— Sgt. Patricia Poole,  
a patrol supervisor with the  
North Carolina Highway Patrol.

and in remote areas, far from backup, "It's dangerous, especially in a rural state like this," Poole told LEN.

"My backup has been as far as 30 miles away, or I might be the only one working the county. That's a lot to think about — your safety — and it's not getting any easier nowadays."

Poole said patrol officials have been very supportive and she has not experienced any sexual harassment or gender discrimination while working on the force, which only added its first female trooper 18 years ago. "There were a couple men who didn't care for me being there since I was the only female in the class. But it was like water off a duck's back; it didn't bother me. But I don't let anything go on that I wouldn't call their hand on."

As a woman supervising 18 male troopers, Poole said she has "to do things a little different from my male counterparts — how I talk to people and carry myself — because I want my people to be productive. In that regard, I've been treated quite well. I thought it would be hard for me to step into that supervisory role, just gaining acceptance from my subordinates," she said.

Still, Poole feels that geographical and cultural differences around the nation are a big factor in discouraging women from entering law enforcement. "I mean, this is still the South. We're not still fighting a war down here by any means, but... [law enforcement] is still a non-traditional role for females. And I believe it always will be, even though we're making strides."

## Headlines are not enough

Affirmative-action programs  
looking a little black & blue

The jury is still out on community policing

Shaping the officer of the future

Time to rethink academy & field training

Maternity-leave

To do a tough job in changing times, you need timely, comprehensive, straightforward information. For the latest trends and ideas, turn to **Law Enforcement News**. Twenty-two times a year, we'll put you in touch with the thinking of those who are shaping law enforcement policy and practice.

**YES!** I'm ready for the professional advantage of **Law Enforcement News**. Enter my one-year subscription and bill me just \$22.00. (Return the coupon to LEN, 899 10th Avenue, New York, NY 10019.)

Name/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Agency \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**Law Enforcement News**

(51598)

A publication of John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY



# DVERT-ing family violence

Continued from Page 8

yet elapsed to make any sure claims. However, DVERT's full-system response includes an immediate face-to-face contact by an advocate and law enforcement officer with victim and perpetrator to advise of DVERT's involvement and how it can and/or will affect them. In addition, advocates continue to make weekly (and in some cases daily) contact with victims. This continuous support and up-front, clear advisement of DVERT's presence and scrutiny is believed to be a deterring factor. A perpetrator may come into DVERT with multiple police contacts, arrests and open criminal cases, but there has been a drastic drop — so far — in criminal activity once DVERT becomes involved. Although DVERT is dealing with those identified as the most lethal perpetrators, to date only 20 arrests have been made after DVERT involvement.

The unique design of the DVERT program has drawn the attention of research groups including the University of Colorado (Colorado Springs) Social Sciences Center. Partially funded by the Justice Department, and in collaboration with the Colorado Springs P.D., the university is conducting research based on the data collected through DVERT. The research findings will then be available to further enhance efforts to respond to the immediate domestic-violence incident as well as to help prevent its continuing vicious cycle.

As of this writing, DVERT is handling 116 cases and has increased its staff to 19. Notably, there are now four full-time advocates, two full-time child protection workers and two full-time police officers working together on a common caseload. A third police officer is also currently assigned, handling stalking cases. This officer works closely with one of the four advocates in investigating and preparing cases for filing with the court. A prosecutor from the D.A.'s office joins DVERT on rotation and is also available as a consultant and case-planning team member.

DVERT is now in the process of organizing its own problem-oriented policing program (DVERT-POP), in which specific and time-limited attention will be given to cases that do not meet the lethality level of a regular DVERT case. In general, DVERT-POP will involve an advocate and police officer in explicit contact, but may also employ a child-protection worker or a humane society officer as needed. A case that does not warrant DVERT-POP attention will be referred to the CSPD's divisional POP, which is a one-time referral contact involving only the police officer.

There is no way to know for sure which perpetrator is the most lethal, or which victim is in the greatest peril. There simply is no clear, objective measurement of this kind of deadliness. As the caseload increases, however, DVERT looks more and more diligently for a model or tool to assess risk and define lethality levels. In the end, the decision to take a case may always be a matter of human judgment and experience. However, DVERT continually scrutinizes every model brought to its attention in an effort to find the tool that will make decision-making more accurate, more inclusive, and less of a judgment call.

"There is no way to know for sure which perpetrator is the most lethal, or which victim is in the greatest peril."

As the team has grown, the problems of collaboration, common language and commitment have grown along with it. DVERT is in the continuing throes of change, redefining its processes and its goals as the issues become clearer. DVERT also works to keep its partners (fundamental to the seamless, holistic approach) in communication and agreement. What will allow DVERT to succeed is their common commitment to the goal and a desire to see the containment of violence and protection of victims remain a priority in the community's own planning for its health and well-being.

# Chief leaves, a PD crumbles & state troopers take over

Continued from Page 1

some town officials are profiting from a lucrative towing contract.

Niebur's own investigation stemmed from complaints by Cicero residents, many of them Hispanic, who said the city's overzealous towing operation was seizing their vehicles for no apparent reason, forcing them to pay hundreds of dollars in fines and fees to get them back.

Niebur later learned that the towing firm, Ram Recovery Inc., had been awarded the town's no-bid towing contract less than a week after the business was incorporated. He also found out that the firm was towing about 45,000 vehicles a year. In comparison, Chicago, whose population is about 40 times that of Cicero, tows about 140,000 illegally parked vehicles each year.

Town officials told Niebur that Ram Recovery did not provide records of the numbers of cars it towed or how much money it was earning from fines and sales of unclaimed vehicles.

The lid blew off last month, when Bue, a 20-year veteran of the Chicago Police Department who has also served as police chief in Hanover Park, Ill., and Sedalia, Mo., caught an employee of Ram Recovery poring through police towing records. Niebur asked the State Police to seize the documents, in defiance of the orders of his boss, Loren-Maltese.

Niebur added that he conducted criminal background checks on his officers when he first arrived in Cicero — something he said had never been done before they were hired. He found several with arrests on charges ranging from assault, gambling, stalking, battery, resisting arrests and other misconduct.

Niebur claimed that the department's supervisors looked the other way when police misconduct occurred. "The whole operation was conducive to extortion, bribery, burglaries by police officers. Supervisors never left the station," he said.

Capt. Bill Davis, who is heading the

State Police investigation of the alleged corruption, called Niebur and Bue "outstanding individuals who were trying to do the right thing."

"It's a travesty what is being done to that community," Davis told *The Tribune*. "It doesn't look like Cicero is ready for reform."

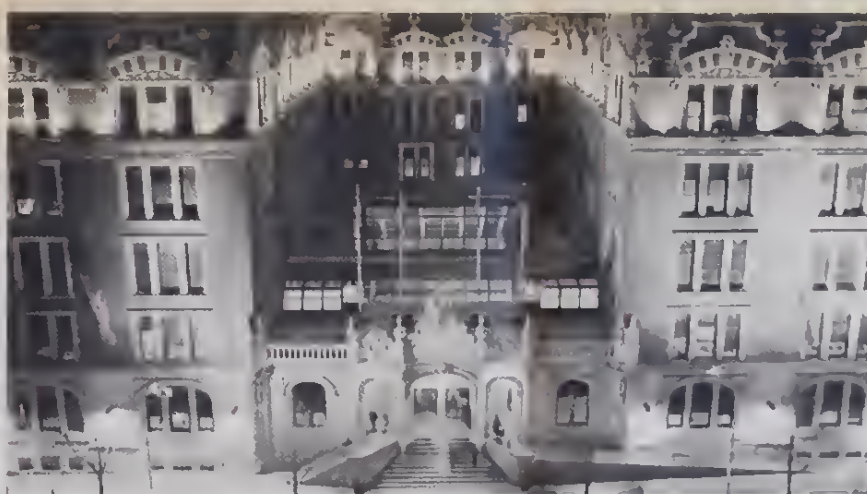
A State Police spokesman, Master Sgt. Lincoln Hampton, said the agency will probably maintain control of the Cicero department until at least the end of the year. In addition to conducting patrol, the State Police has brought in 10 to 20 additional troopers from the gang unit to lend their expertise to the department. Other State Police officials are trying to whittle down a backlog of unsolved homicides, Hampton told *LEW*.

Once a degree of stability is returned to the Cicero Police Department, State Police officials will help the agency revamp its hiring procedures and training programs to prevent future outbreaks of criminal misconduct, Hampton added.

## Justice has been served.



THE VERDICT IS IN:  
**JOHN JAY COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE**  
GRADUATE STUDIES PROGRAM RANKED NO. 1 IN THE NATION

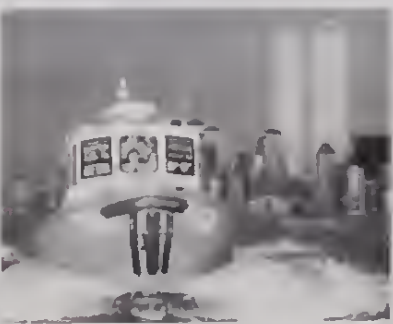


### HERE IS THE EVIDENCE:

John Jay College of Criminal Justice has earned a global reputation as a leader in criminal justice education, research and training. It is the only liberal arts college whose mission is exclusively devoted to criminal justice and public service. John Jay gets top marks for its master's programs in criminal justice, public administration, and forensic science.

"... the criminal justice field is one of the country's fastest growing labor markets."

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



It also offers unique, highly regarded master's programs in forensic psychology and protection management. Its doctoral program is one of the top five and the largest in the country. The Sealy Library provides the world's most comprehensive criminal justice collection.



With its special mission, the College is an integral part of the criminal justice community. Its faculty are leading experts in their fields. The College's strong ties to law enforcement institutions and its cooperative training programs with public safety agencies provide a unique blend of practice and theory that greatly enhances the learning experience. As a result, John Jay's graduates are highly placed in the criminal justice profession.

Its convenient midtown west location, flexible scheduling and affordable tuition all combine to make it the college for advanced study in criminal justice.

For further information about degree programs at John Jay College, call, write, or visit online.

John Jay College of Criminal Justice  
The City University of New York  
Office of Admissions, 445 West 59th Street  
New York, NY 10019, 212-237-8863, [www.jjay.cuny.edu](http://www.jjay.cuny.edu)

U.S. News & World Report

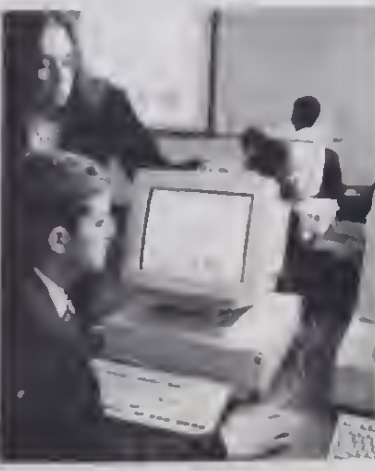
EXCLUSIVE RANKINGS  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALTIES  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY

1. John Jay College - CUNY
2. Harvard University (MA)
3. SUNY - Albany
4. Princeton University (NJ)
5. Carnegie Mellon University (PA)

1998  
ANNUAL GUIDE  
AMERICA'S  
BEST  
GRADUATE  
SCHOOLS

"This institution has become a world renowned center for teaching and scholarship in the field of criminal justice. It is here young people come to prepare for careers in law enforcement, careers promoting public safety in our communities..."

Governor George Pataki  
New York





# Law Enforcement News

Vol. XXIV, No. 489

A publication of John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY

May 15, 1998

## The more things change...



The more they seem to be stuck at the same maddeningly slow pace for female cops, according to a new study that gauges the growth of women in the ranks nationwide. **Story, Page 1.**

## Blowing smoke:

Don't be fooled by rose-colored disinformation and favorable media treatment — the drive to “medicalize” marijuana is a dangerous red herring, warns a Wyoming police chief. **Forum, Page 8.**

John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY  
Law Enforcement News  
899 Tenth Avenue  
New York, NY 10019

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
New York, N.Y.  
Permit No. 1302

### What They Are Saying:

**“In my career, I have had people shoot at me and I have killed people. But I have never been so scared as I am this week here.”**

— David Niebur, shortly after resigning as Superintendent of the troubled Cicero, Ill., Police Department, amid allegations of pervasive police misconduct. Niebur left the state, saying he feared for his life. (Story, Page 1.)